

UAE leader receives Iranian message

ABU DHABI (R) — The president of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan, Sunday received a verbal message from Iranian President Ali Khamenei, the UAE official news agency WAM reported. It said the message, delivered by Hussein Kazem, Iranian Foreign Ministry under-secretary for economic and international affairs who arrived in Abu Dhabi Sunday, dealt with current developments in the area of bilateral relations. The agency gave no further details. The UAE and its five Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) allies have condemned Iran for recent attacks on Kuwaiti and Saudi Arabian tankers. Tehran has neither confirmed nor denied hitting ships in the Gulf, but has threatened to stop other Gulf states from shipping their crude if Iraq, with which it has been at war for 44 months, blocks Iranian oil exports.

N. mission gives in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — A U.N. fact-finding mission arrived here Sunday on a four-day visit to Jordan. The three-member mission will talk with Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Shawkat Moud and will bear a number of eyewitness accounts of Israeli's actions of human rights in the occupied Arab lands. The team, led by Sri Lanka's ambassador to the U.N., will visit Syria and Iraq. The mission will not be able to visit the occupied Arab lands as it is banned by Israel. Following the tour in the area, the mission will prepare a report on its findings to be presented to the U.N. secretary general.

Israelis search for bus attackers

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli security forces were searching Sunday for men who burned an Israeli tanking Palestinian labourers in the occupied West Bank to jobs in Israel, a military spokesman said. The four, armed with pistols and submachine guns, stood the bus early on Friday and fired its driver and three passengers to disembark. The gun-then ordered the passengers to get out and then set fire to the vehicle, the spokesman said.

Egypt sends message to Japan

CAIRO (R) — A senior Egyptian official said Sunday that Egyptian Prime Minister Shoukri Moustafa was expected to end the war between Israel and Iraq. Officials said that Mr. Moustafa, deputy foreign minister, was also carrying a message to Mr. Nakasone from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Mr. Moustafa is expected to go on to Japan and the Philippines after his Tokyo trip. Egypt last month passed a plan, subsequently vetoed by Tehran, which was aimed to call for a ceasefire and stationing of a peacekeeping force along the Iran-Iraq border.

Iran sentences to death

TEHRAN (R) — Ten young rioters were sentenced to death Sunday for killing two motorists in "bread riots" in Tehran. The rioters were sentenced to death by a Tehran court. During the riot, two gangs blocked roads leading into the capital, forcing motorists to slow down, and then threw stones through the windows. The court said the rioters had been sentenced to death because they had committed crimes against public order and safety.

Korean leader signs Poland visit

SEOUL (R) — North Korean leader Kim Il Sung arrived in Warsaw Sunday for an official visit to Poland. Mr. Kim, who travelled with his wife, was greeted at the airport by President Konstantin Chernenko, who was in Poland for a state visit. Mr. Kim is expected to stay in Poland for several days before returning to North Korea.

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King stresses teachers' role in shaping country's future

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King Hussein, who was addressing a rally held at Yarmouk University to mark Jordan's 38th Independence Day, said teachers have a responsibility of building up the future generation and therefore they should be open to modern trends in sciences and cope with development in education so that they can impart valuable teaching to the young and help their country catch up with advanced nations.

Teachers should be well qualified to carry out their mission with responsibility as they are responsible for bridging the cultural gap between backwardness and progress and help safeguard Arab identity and existence, the King said. Therefore, he said, it is incumbent upon teachers to introduce new and modern teaching methods based on analysis and

schools and education under Israeli occupation rule have rendered Jordan's plans futile, and therefore plans for the transformation in teaching methods and comprehensive improvement in education had to be delayed.

However, in the 1980s, Jordan is determined to carry out programmes for improving the standard and quality of education in accordance with the Ministry of Education's plans, King Hussein said.

The King said that he was distributing medals to veteran teachers in recognition of their efforts and their mission, and is also distributing title deeds of housing units to those benefiting from a housing project for teachers in Irbid Governorate.

More housing units will be built so that as many teachers as possible can benefit from the project and own their homes, King Hussein said.

He also declared that in recognition of the teachers' role and services towards their country he had passed directives to Jordanian universities to assign five per cent of the seats in all faculties to the sons and daughters of working and retired teachers and has ordered that plots of state-owned land be assigned near towns in various regions of the country for establishing cultural and social clubs for teachers.

Later the King distributed medals to veteran teachers in recognition of their efforts. Medals were distributed to 104 working and retired teachers.

At the ceremony, Minister of

Education Hikmat Al Saket made a speech explaining that the Education Ministry's plans have been geared to cope with the country's development needs in various sectors. He also referred to programmes designed to improve education and teaching methods.

Deeds distributed

Also at the ceremony, King Hussein distributed title deeds to teachers of Irbid Governorate for the ownership of housing units at the Zibdet Farkouh Housing Estate. The ceremony was attended by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obaidat, Speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi and Akel Al Fayez, respectively, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Oaseem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odch, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, senior officials, presidents of Jordanian universities, the mayor of Irbid and senior army officers.

Following the celebrations, King Hussein visited the Zibdet Farkouh Housing Estate and unveiled a commemorative plaque at the site, and inspected the housing units.

The 392-unit project has cost JD 3.5 million and is of three types, all provided with health, educational and postal services, as well as a shopping centre and public parks. Beneficiaries made a down-payment of 10 per cent of the total cost of the units and the rest will be paid in instalments over 20 years.

Gulf crisis forces tankers to lie idle

ABU DHABI (R) — More than 60 tankers are docked off the United Arab Emirates (UAE) ports of Fujairah and Khor Fakkan waiting for orders to load oil from Kuwait, Saudi, Iranian and UAE oil terminals, shipping sources said Sunday.

They said the number had increased from about 10 tankers usually docked off the two ports on the UAE's eastern coast before Iran and Iraq escalated their war this month by attacking oil tankers and other ships in the Gulf.

But port sources noted that as many as 80 tankers were anchored off the country's eastern shore at any one time some 15 months ago when Gulf states' oil exports were dropping because of the world oil glut.

Officials at Fujairah's port attributed the current increase in the number of tankers anchored there to the port's location outside the Strait of Hormuz, which Iran has threatened to block if its oil export were disrupted, and its low insurance rates.

Lloyds insurance of London last week raised its premium for ships travelling to Khor Fakkan and Fujairah to 0.125 per cent of total ship and cargo value, but this is still far less than the rate for ships travelling into the Gulf.

Some UAE press reports have attributed the increase in the number of ships anchored off the UAE's eastern coast to a recent decision by Oman to clear its ports of oil tankers.

Officials at Abu Dhabi's oil terminal in the Gulf said the movement of oil tankers was normal with no significant change in their numbers.

They said they did not expect an increase in UAE oil exports be-

cause the country's production was limited to 1.1 million barrels per day under quotas set by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Dubai shipping sources also said tanker traffic was normal, and that it would take "some time" for attacks on ships at the northern part of the Gulf to have any adverse effects on shipping in the lower Gulf.

Pope voices concern

Meanwhile, Pope John Paul Sunday said the Gulf war threatened uncontrollable regional conflict.

Speaking in Viterbo, a medieval city 70 kilometres north of Rome, the Pope said the three-and-a-half year old war was worsening daily, with a constant accumulation of ruins, destruction and death. He added:

"The fighting threatens to spread to nearby countries and to explode into an even more grave crisis that would involve the whole area, with possibly uncontrollable repercussions."

At the conclusion of an informal meeting of European Community foreign ministers, French foreign minister Charles de Mitterrand said the Gulf war was "abominable," and said it was a major issue of discussion at the meeting.

Mr. Cheysson said the foreign ministers expressed their worry about the "state of the petroleum market," and that it was necessary to call for prudence on all sides, avoid an internationalisation of the conflict and increase appeals for reason.

U.S. considering sending air tankers to Saudi Arabia; High insurance rates will not block oil flow, Yarmouk says, page 2

Kuwait hints at trouble in exporting oil

KUWAIT (R) — A Kuwaiti minister Sunday dropped a strong hint that his country had been facing problems with oil exports after the recent spate of attacks on shipping in the Gulf.

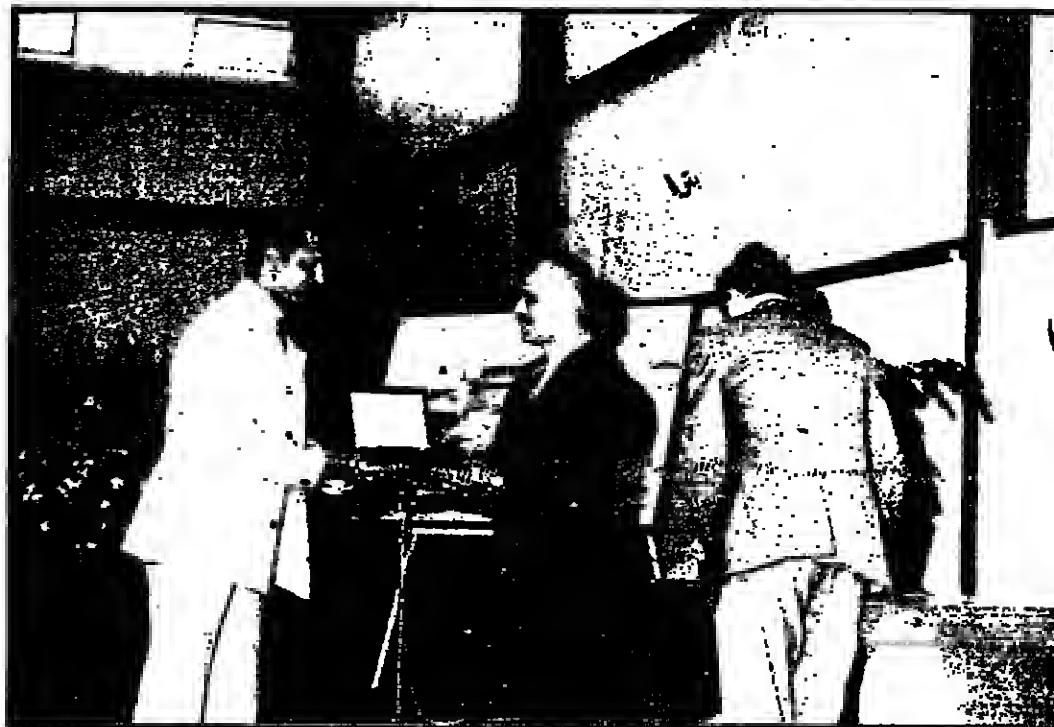
Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Abdul Aziz Hussein told reporters the attacks "influenced some oil companies in regard to sending their vessels to the Gulf, but Kuwait can, with its special abilities and good connections, overcome the problems it is facing."

Mr. Hussein, who gave no fur-

ther details, was speaking after Kuwait's weekly cabinet session in which Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa Al Sabah reported on the production and marketing of Kuwaiti oil.

Two Kuwaiti tankers, Umm Qasab and Bahrah, were hit by missiles in the Gulf earlier this month in aerial attacks blamed by Kuwait and five other Arab Gulf states on Iran.

Sheikh Ali, according to an advance copy of a statement he is scheduled to make to parliament



His Majesty King Hussein Sunday honours a Jordanian teacher for excellent services at a ceremony held at Yarmouk University (Petra photo)

Arafat leaves after talks on Arab summit, Gulf and U.N. conference

By Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat left Amman for Algiers early Sunday after holding three hours of intensive talks with His Majesty King Hussein and senior Jordanian officials.

Mr. Arafat, who arrived here Saturday afternoon for a brief visit, chaired the opening session of a three-day meeting of the Palestine National Fund (PNF).

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said that during the Hussein-Arafat talks both leaders stressed the necessity of convening an Arab summit "to work towards thwarting dangers confronting all Arab countries without exception."

The 13th Arab summit, originally scheduled to be held in the Saudi capital of Riyadh earlier this year, has been postponed twice due to inter-Arab differences.

But a report carried by the Iraqi

News Agency (INA) last week said Arab foreign ministers who met in Tunis earlier this month have reached a tentative decision to hold the summit in Riyadh in November.

Palestinian sources told the Jordan Times Sunday that during Saturday's talks, which were attended by top-level delegations from Jordan and the PLO, both sides agreed to continue joint efforts towards holding the summit.

King Hussein and Mr. Arafat also discussed the mounting tension in the Gulf following escalated attacks against shipping in the 44-month-old Gulf war and stressed the need to find an early solution to end the conflict between warring Iran and Iraq, Petra said.

The King and the PLO chairman reviewed the results of a meeting in Jeddah earlier Saturday of a seven-nation Islamic peace committee which seeks to end the Gulf war. Mr. Arafat flew to Amman from Jeddah after attending the meeting and was reported to have unveiled a new initiative to end the Iran-Iraq conflict.

The Palestinian sources told the Jordan Times that King Hussein and Mr. Arafat also discussed a joint Jordan-PLO campaign on the international level to canvass support for a conference on the Middle East with the participation of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Meanwhile, the meetings of the PNF which Mr. Arafat opened Saturday continued here Sunday. During the opening session Mr. Arafat was briefed on the PLO's financial status by PNF President Hanna Nasir.

Among the major topics under discussion at the current meeting are shortage of finance for the PNF, the current operating conditions and needs of various Palestinian welfare institutions, living conditions of the inhabitants of the Israeli-occupied territories and a review on whether to channel financial support to the families of PLO dissidents.

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NDP woman candidate shot dead in Egypt

CAIRO, Egypt (Agencies) — A woman candidate for the opposition Socialist Labour Party was shot by a candidate of the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) near the southern city of Luxor Sunday and died in hospital later, a Labour leader said.

Mrs. Nemat Mohammad Hassan, a 45-year-old high school teacher, was hit in the chest by bullets fired by NDP candidate Abdel-Moneim Badran, a car dealer, Labour secretary Abdel-Hamid Barakat told.

He said the shooting occurred in front of a polling station at the village of Nag El-Tawil, near the city of Luxor which lies 720 kilometres south of Cairo.

"Our candidate was taken to hospital but she died later," Mr. Barakat said.

Asked about the reasons for the shooting, Mr. Barakat said: "Badran shot our candidate in a fit of anger and grudge. To begin with, his name appears low on the list of NDP candidates. Furthermore, the Labour Party list in that constituency is strong and stands a good chance of victory."

An Interior Ministry spokesman confirmed the shooting and death but said the ministry had no details.

Mr. Barakat said that immediately after the shooting, police "closed the polling station and sent waiting voters away."

He claimed that as of 2 p.m. (1100 GMT), three and a half hours after the shooting, police had not arrested Mr. Badran.

The incident came two and a half hours after polling stations opened nationwide in elections for a new parliament.

Opposition parties reported other violence in the poll to choose a new 448-seat people's assembly. They said seven people were hurt in clashes with supporters of the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP).

The Wafd Party, the NDP's main challenger, said the wife of one of its candidates was shot and wounded in Shebein El-Khaima, in the Nile delta.

It was not clear who shot the candidate near Luxor or why. Political analysts could recall other cases in Egypt of candidates being shot in elections, but never a woman.

Upper Egypt is a place where passions run high, feuds are common and some people object to women taking a role in public life.

During earlier voting in working class Shubra El-Kheima, near Cairo, Prime Minister Fuad Moeen El-Din predicted a big majority for the NDP, led by President Hosni Mubarak.

He said polling was going smoothly. But Wafd leader Fuad Seragaddin spoke of acts of intimidation and called the election

"theatre."

Party sources in upper Egypt said the candidate killed Sunday died with a bullet in her head. She was in a car with some supporters. They met another car, apparently filled with ruling party people.

Shots were exchanged. Surviving occupants of both cars were arrested after the incident.

Commentators predicted a comfortable election win for the ruling party but thought voters might return Egypt's strongest opposition for half a century, perhaps accounting for up to 100 of 448 seats. Results are due by Tuesday.

The revived right-wing Wafd is the main threat to the ruling party. Formed in 1919, it is now allied with the banned Muslim Brotherhood.

The left-wing Unionist Progressive Party and the rightist Liberal Socialist Party are also contending along with the ruling party, the Wafd and the Socialist Labour Party.

A stronger opposition showing would support claims by Mr. Mubarak supporters that he aims to lead Egypt back to democracy after years of curbs on opposition activity.

But it might complicate his task as he tackles the basic issue in modern Egypt — the aspirations of its 47 million for better living standards in an economy burdened by low productivity and a soaring birth rate.

Britain deports suspected guerrilla squad

LONDON (R) — A suspected guerrilla squad comprising an Iranian, two Algerians and a Moroccan have been deported from Britain, the home office said Sunday.

Official sources said they were believed to be supporters of Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and a report in the Sunday Times newspaper said they were thought to have been plotting to murder anti-Khomeini activists.

A spokesman for the Home Office (Interior Ministry) said Ali Ghorbani Far, an Iranian, and Abdel Majid Chraïbi, a Moroccan with refugee status in France, were deported to France on May 17. The two Algerians, Abdel Faid Djaffar and Hafid Regardj, were sent home the following day.

Mubarak meets Thai minister

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Sunday discussed developments in southeast Asia, the Gulf and the Middle East with Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetisa.

Mr. Siddhi told reporters his country supported Egypt's efforts to end the 44-month-old Iran-Iraq war.

The Thai minister, on an official four-day visit to Egypt, had similar talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali Saturday.

Moi voices concern over Islamic sharia law in Sudan

NAIROBI (R) — Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi said Saturday he was concerned that the imposition of Islamic sharia law in Sudan would ruin that country's unity and cause refugee problems for its neighbours.

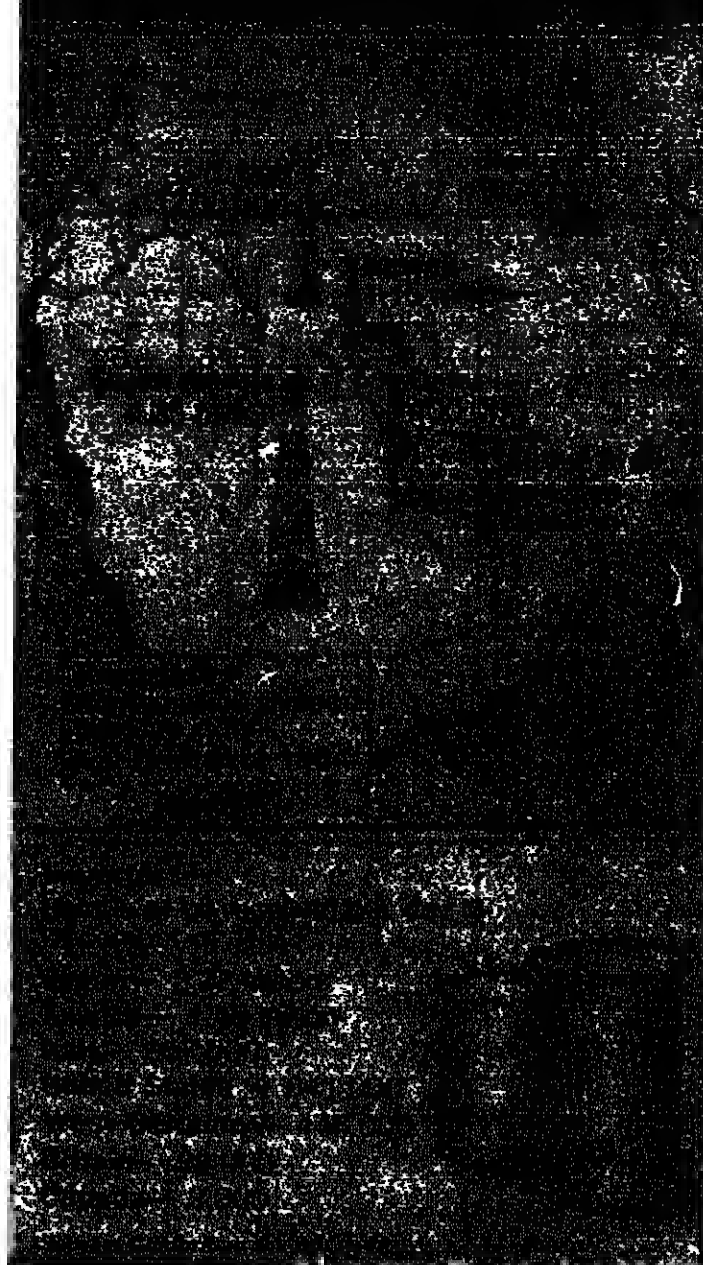
Mr. Moi was quoted by the official Kenyan News Agency (KNA) as telling local officials at Nakuru, 160 kilometres north of Nairobi, that the problem of Sudanese refugees was like difficulties Kenya experienced when thousands of Ugandans fled their homeland after dictator Idi Amin seized power in 1971.

Turkey says Greek plane violates its air space

ANKARA (R) — Turkey said Sunday an unspecified Greek plane had violated its airspace near the Aegean port of Kusadasi, calling the incident deliberate and dangerous.

A Foreign Ministry statement said the plane entered Turkish airspace Saturday and declared the action could not have been an error.

Tracing the Flow of Arabian Gulf Oil



High insurance will not stop Gulf oil flow, Yamani says

GENEVA (R) — Saudi Oil Minister Ahmed Zaki Yamani said Saturday night that large increases in maritime insurance premiums for the Gulf would affect oil prices but not result in a cut-off of Gulf oil supplies.

That would happen only if Lloyd's, the London insurance market, cancelled cover altogether for the region, he said in an interview on Swiss Television.

Saturday Lloyd's more than doubled the cost of war risk premiums for ships sailing to the Iranian port of Bandar Bushire and to Iran's main oil terminal at Kharg Island. It was the third and biggest increase in a month by Lloyd's underwriters.

The rises follow stepped-up attacks on tankers and other vessels by Iraq and Iran, at war for nearly four years.

Mr. Yamani said he still feared Lloyd's would eventually refuse cover for Gulf shipping. "If Lloyd's cancels its contracts then the Gulf traffic, the navigation, will stop," he said.

Asked if big premium increases would not have the same effect, the minister replied: "This will affect the price of Gulf oil, but not actually cut off its supply."

Saturday Mr. Yamani told U.S. businessmen in Geneva he feared that Lloyd's, by cancelling insurance, would achieve what Iran had failed to do and effectively close the Gulf to shipping.

However, Lloyd's, which insures the bulk of world shipping, called a London news conference to say it was unthinkable they would refuse cover for vessels willing to risk a Gulf voyage.

Mr. Yamani said Saturday night he hoped Lloyd's would continue to provide insurance, even at very high premiums.

Asked what he thought of Friday's premium increase, Mr. Yamani said: "It's not the first time they have done it. In the past few weeks the premiums have been raised several times."

The Saudi minister shrugged off intelligence reports from Washington that Iran may be planning to attack Gulf tankers and Saudi oilfields with kamikaze-style suicide planes.

"We read all kinds of rumours but there is no reality in them as long as we don't see them. I hope we don't see them," he said.

U.S. considering airborne tankers for Saudi Arabia

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States is considering supplying airborne tankers to Saudi Arabia which could use them to refuel fighters in mid-air and help protect ships from Iranian attacks, the Washington Post said Sunday.

The Post said the Boeing KC-135 tankers, which could refuel Saudi Arabia's F-15 fighters, were considered of greater military importance than ground-to-air Stinger missiles that the Reagan administration is considering selling to the Saudis.

The newspaper reported that the Pentagon expert on the Middle East, Major-General Edward Tizier, had already flown to Saudi Arabia to implement any decisions on providing backing for the Saudi Air Force.

The Post said the KC-135s would be particularly useful if Saudi Arabia went ahead with a plan which the paper said was under consideration to proclaim a "safety zone" near the Saudi coast in the Gulf where all oil tankers would be under Saudi military protection.

Pentagon officials refused comment on the Post report. But the Pentagon spokesman confirmed that a 15-man U.S. military mission had been sent to another Gulf state, Kuwait, to study its military needs.

The official said this visit was partly in response to a recent Washington visit by Kuwait's Defence Minister, Sheikh Salim Al-Sabah.

Congress opposes Stinger sales

The U.S. administration is close to a decision to send 200 Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Saudi Arabia, but is facing pressure from Congress to lease them rather than sell them outright, congressional and administration sources said Saturday.

The missiles are to help Saudi Arabia in bolstering its defences in the face of the escalating Iran-Iraq war which has led to attacks on Gulf shipping.

The administration favours a sale because it would have "symbolic impact" as a show of support.

President Ronald Reagan could send the missiles without congressional approval by exercising his presidential emergency powers.

One reason some members of Congress favour leasing, said the official, is to maintain better control by Washington of the weapons. The administration had earlier proposed selling 1,200 Stingers to Saudi Arabia, but withdrew the offer after concluding it couldn't get the deal through Congress.

But the congressional source said there is a consensus that "200 (Stingers) could be useful in an 'emergency' situation."

Sudanese rebels may release West German captives soon

BONN (AP) — Sudanese rebels have held two West German civilians captive for five days but said they will release them soon, the Bonn Ministry for Economic Co-operation said Sunday.

Klaus Frahm, 45, and Horst Peters, 27, were abducted last Wednesday in South Sudan, where they work for the Deutscher Entwicklungsdienst, a volunteer organisation similar to the peace corps, said ministry spokesman Manfred Obleander.

Sixty-two Sudanese soldiers were reportedly kidnapped at the same time, but Mr. Obleander said he could not confirm those reports.

Mr. Frahm and Mr. Peters were driving from their organisation's regional office in Yuba to the small village of Wau, some 500 kilometres away when Sudanese guerrillas abducted them. Mr. Obleander told the Associated Press by telephone.

He said West German embassy officials in Khartoum had since heard radio reports that the rebels planned to release the West Germans soon.

Israel denies Lebanese demand to close Beirut 'liaison office'

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel has received no request from the Lebanese government to close an Israeli "liaison office" north of Beirut, a spokesman for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Saturday.

Lebanese officials were quoted earlier Saturday in Beirut as saying Prime Minister Rashid Karami had notified Israel on Thursday of Lebanon's decision to close the Israeli office at Dbaiyeh, on the Mediterranean coast.

"We have not received any such

request," spokesman Avi Pazner told Reuters.

He declined to say how Israel would react if Beirut requested the closure of the office, which was opened shortly after Israel's June 1982 invasion and has remained open despite Beirut's abrogation of a troop withdrawal agreement signed by the two countries last May.

Mr. Pazner also denied Lebanese newspaper reports that the United States had offered to mediate between Israel and Lebanon

on a withdrawal of Israeli forces from South Lebanon.

Beirut newspapers quoted Mr. Karami as saying the U.S. ambassador in Beirut said Washington would mediate if requested to do so by both Lebanon and Israel.

"We have heard nothing about it," Mr. Pazner said. "But we would be surprised if there should be any U.S. initiative."

Mr. Pazner said Israeli policy was that all contacts between Israel and Lebanon should be direct.

Jewish terrorists to face 'political trial'

TEL AVIV (AP) — Defence lawyers for the 27 Israelis accused of involvement in a Jewish terror underground are planning to call ministers and top army officers as witnesses and to turn the case into a "political trial," the daily Yediot Aharonot reported on Sunday.

The 27, most of whom are settlers in the occupied West Bank and Golan Heights, are accused of involvement in a series of attacks on West Bank Palestinians, including the car-bombing of two West Bank mayors in June 1980 and the attack on the Hebron Islamic College last July in which three students were killed.

The charges filed against the 27 include premeditated murder, attempted murder, and membership in a terrorist organisation.

But it said the defence lawyers will try to turn the hearing into a "political trial" by proving that the Israeli government and West Bank civil administration were negligent in defending the Israelis living in West Bank settlements against attacks by Palestinians, and that the defendants were therefore left with no choice but to act in their own defence.

The paper said witnesses called by the defence might include former Defence Ministers Ezer Wei-

zman and Ariel Sharon.

Jewish settlement leaders, and also some of the accused, have been quoted in media reports as saying that Mr. Weizman allowed radical Palestinian leaders to gain influence in the West Bank.

The car-bombing which crippled Nablus Mayor Bassam Shak'a and Ramallah Mayor Karim Khalaf followed the murder in May 1980 of six Jewish settlers returning home from Friday evening prayers in Hebron, and the attack on the Hebron Islamic College came three weeks after the murder of a Jewish student in the centre of the town.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	BBC WORLD SERVICE
MAIN CHANNEL	639, 720, 1413 KHz
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Armico to buy shares in Jordanian iron producers

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Mining Company (Armico) board has decided to buy 25 per cent of the capital in the Jordanian Industrial Engineering Company, which amounts to JD 15 million.

This decision was announced by Armico's board at the end of the first day of their meeting in Amman Saturday evening.

The projects which the Jordanian company are going to carry out aim to produce nearly 17,000 tonnes of iron and steel products annually.

The Amman-based company's

board also reviewed mining projects in which Armico holds shares in Morocco, Mauritania, Iraq and Syria, and endorsed the final accounts included in the company's report for 1983.

The board meeting was chaired by Mr. Hussein Al Jaseem, representative of Kuwait, and attended by Armico's Director-General Thabet Al Taher.

Also present at the meeting were the ministers of mining and resources from Somalia and Mauritania.

Jordanian-Soviet society marks 38th anniversary

MOSCOW (Petra) — On the occasion of Jordan's 38th anniversary of its independence, the chairman of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society, Alex Savanov, said that the Soviet Union, which stands firmly against all kinds of aggression, will always support the Arab nations in their struggle to achieve their legitimate rights, and Israeli aggression and establish a durable and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Savanov, who is also Soviet deputy health minister, was speaking Sunday during a celebration given by the society on the occasion of the anniversary.

He stressed that Jordanian-Soviet relations are friendly and that they will continue to develop in the interest of the two nations serving the cause of peace in the Middle East and all over the world.

At the celebration, the society's deputy chairman, Nicolas Sovinks, also addressed the audience during which he hailed the economic, commercial, scientific and cultural relations between the two countries.

Jordanian ambassador to the Soviet Union Faleh Al Tawil, who also attended the celebration, spoke warmly about relations between the two nations and stressed its development in a number of fields. Mr. Tawil also lauded the Soviet role in training Jordanian vocational instructors.

Nabulsi: Rural projects to halt migration to cities

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Nabulsi said here Sunday that his ministry has drawn up plans to complete work on basic public service projects in a number of villages.

He said that the ministry will complete the laying of water pipes, electricity cables and will finish the building of roads along with other facilities in two years' time.

This, he said, should raise the standard of living in the rural regions and help halt the movement of people to the urban areas.

The minister was speaking at the Yarmouk University Liaison Office here during the opening of a four-day seminar to orientate the heads of 50 village councils on

the means to improve public services and other subjects related to their councils.

"The councils should help in spreading awareness among the public so that every citizen can help his village council in implementing projects and taking part in improving services," Mr. Nabulsi said.

Mr. Nabulsi said that his ministry will hold training courses and seminars and will prepare village councils to take over municipality responsibilities in the future.

The seminar, organised in co-operation with Yarmouk University, is designed to familiarise heads of village councils with municipal laws, finance regulations, local administration and other subjects.

Arab medical meeting discusses specialisations

AMMAN (Petra) — The Higher Arab Medical Specialisation Council opened a three-day meeting at the Yarmouk University Liaison Office in Amman Sunday to discuss topics related to medical specialisation in the Arab World.

Health Minister Kamel Al Ajluni opened the meeting with a speech in which he outlined the importance of the scientific councils formed by the council which he said are designed to raise the standard of medical practice in the Arab World.

He also referred to the co-operation that exists between universities, the Health Ministry and the Jordanian Medical Association in Jordan for to improve medical services to the public.

Also speaking at the opening session was the council's chairman, Dr. Ali Fakhr, who spoke about a project to issue specialised diplomas to doctors.

The council then endorsed resolutions taken by the council's committees and the 1983 budget.

RCC exhibition portrays country throughout ages

AMMAN (J.T.) — An exhibition of paintings portraying the Jordanian environment was opened at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) in Amman to mark Jordan's 38th Independence Day.

The exhibition, which was opened by Amman Mayor Abdul 'Auf Al Rawabdeh, has been organised by the Tourism Authority in co-operation with the

Jordan Folk Heritage Club and the University of Jordan.

On display for five days are 55 paintings depicting Jordan from when it was inhabited by the Nabateans right up to the present time, and presenting a picture of Jordanian folk heritage.

Also on display are four sculptures, handicrafts, brass ware and traditional costumes.

Australian trade fair begins

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Australian trade display was opened Sunday at the Holiday Inn hotel.

Minister of Agriculture Mohammad Bashir inaugurated the opening of the display. Mr. Bashir commended Jordanian-Australian relations and hoped for

better future co-operation in various fields.

The opening was attended by the Australian Ambassador to Jordan Richard Gate, Ministry of Agriculture Under-Secretary Salem Al Lawati and various Australian and Jordanian businessmen.



The annual meeting of the Arab Mining Company (Armico) which Saturday evening reviewed the Armico board report for 1983 (Petra photo)

Rallies marches continue independence celebrations

AMMAN (Petra) — Further celebrations were held in a number of governorates Sunday to mark Jordan's 38th Independence Day anniversary.

In South Shuneh, a big rally was held in the playground of the local school and notables from the town made speeches on the occasion outlining the various achievements realised in Jordan since 1946.

A march was also held from the town to the monument of the Unknown Soldier at Karameh in which the district governor, Abdul Lah Al Udwan, and other officials took part.

In Aqaba, where the streets were decorated with flags, posters and portraits of King Hussein, there was a firework display and the army brass band paraded through the streets playing music.

At a local school an educational aids exhibition was held and visited by officials and members of the public.

The Aquamarina Club in Aqaba will hold a water skiing competition Monday in which local and American skiers will take part.

In Mahes near Salt, the Independence anniversary was marked by marches and national dabke dances in the streets and main squares.

In Madaba, a charitable bazaar was organised at the Latin School for Girls and was attended by the director of education, Abdul Latif Al Sheikh, and other officials.

On display for three days are paintings, embroidery and needlework, artificial flowers, and children's toys. Senior officials attended the opening ceremony.

March in Karak

At Mazar in the Karak Governorate, a march was organised in which scouts and members of youth organisations carried posters and flags and later took part in national dancing and songs performed in the city squares.

At the end of the march, Karak Governor Ahmad Al Qur'an opened an exhibition at the town's secondary school displaying educational aids and other items like embroidery, artificial flowers, national costumes and other handicrafts. The exhibition will last for five days.

At Ruseifeb north of here, the streets were bedecked with flags and decorative signs. The town's scouts and members of youth clubs organised a march in the town and carried posters and portraits of King Hussein.

At 'Awajan in the Zarqa district, the director of the education department opened an art exhibition which featured paintings, national costumes, educational aids, embroidery and needlework.

At Ain Al Pasha town near Salt, people organised a march and national dances in the streets which were bedecked with flags and posters with national slogans.

Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat received cables of good wishes on the occasion from prime ministers of Arab and friendly countries and also from speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of parliament, heads of municipal and village council, presidents of trade unions, leaders of Christian and Muslim communities, and other members of the public.

Noor opens Suweileh community centre

By Olga Mikhail
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Her Majesty Queen Noor inaugurated Sunday the new community centre at Suweileh which was built with the help of students at the University of Jordan.

Attending the ceremony was Minister of Social Development Abdul Salam Kana'an, Mrs. In'am Al Mufti, Suweileh Mayor Dr. Mohammad Al Dalahmeh, Dr. Sari Nasir, founder of the community centres project, and representatives from Suweileh society.

Queen Noor told the Jordan Times and Radin Jurdan that "this centre seems to have sprung from the hearts of many who have felt the importance of providing such facilities for the young in the country."

It has given the boys and girls who have helped to create this centre, she continued, "the opportunity to learn to develop themselves and to make a contribution to society."

I hope it will serve as an inspiration to many more members of the community to see what can be achieved with good heart, good work and love, she added.

The centre was begun in 1981 on the initiative of Dr. Nasir, professor of sociology at the University of Jordan.

The finance for the project was amassed through donations from Jordanian citizens and institutions, while the actual construction was done by the students themselves under the supervision of Dr. Nasir.

Dr. Dalahmeh said in his speech that the municipality of Suweileh had donated a four dunum piece of land and had also provided the centre with the infrastructure.

"We are very happy to see that this project has become a reality," he said.

Dr. Dalahmeh then briefly mentioned the achievements attained by the municipality during the last three years.

Also speaking at the inauguration ceremony was Miss Amal Nafe, the University of Jor-

dan students' representative. Miss Nafe said that the Suweileh community centre is the second such centre to be built in such a way after the Hay Nazal centre.

"I can say that all the students from the university have contributed in making this project a success", she said.

"We students hope that this experience will be broadened to ensure such a service reaches most of our underprivileged areas", she concluded.

Dr. Nasir said in an interview

with the Jordan Times that "many of our underprivileged areas have deprived children who are in need of a centre that will help them utilise their time instead of spending it playing in the street where they are liable to be involved in accidents".

About the objectives of the centre, Dr. Nasir said that as a professor at an Arab university, "I feel that we ought to experiment in the way we try to develop our educational system."

He went on to say that "it is very important to get our students out of their classrooms and into the society, to work with them in identifying social problems and get them to participate in finding solutions to such problems in the community," he added.

The Suweileh community centre comprises a children's library,

a theatre, a clinic, a multipurpose room, a store house, a garden and a children's playground.

Other activities, like teaching literacy classes, weaving, sewing and typing are to be provided. The capacity of the centre will be the same as the Hay Nazal centre which can presently accommodate about 300 children a day.

"We will ask for the help of students from various disciplines in the university to play a role in the centre's activities while some medical doctors will, it is hoped, volunteer to work in the clinic once or twice a week", Dr. Nasir said.

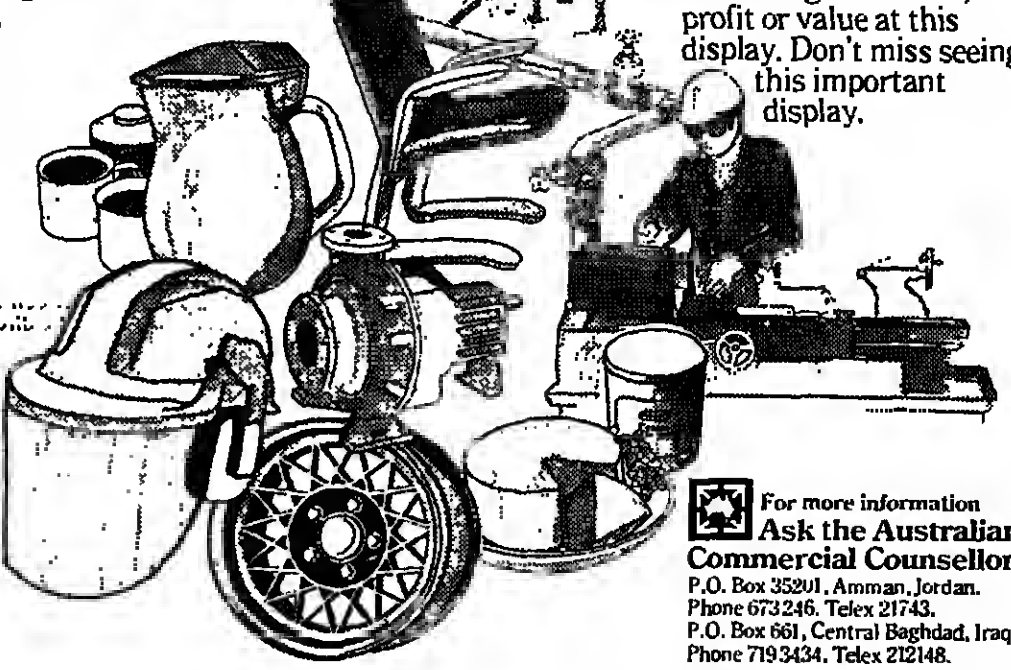
"We will also try to persuade the University of Jordan to have a medical community research centre where doctors from the university will be able to operate at the clinic," Dr. Nasir concluded.

VISIT THE AUSTRALIAN TRADE DISPLAY

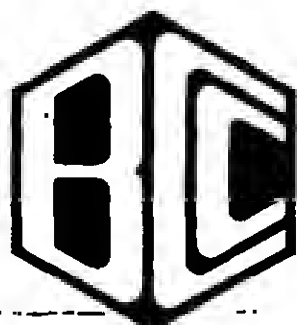
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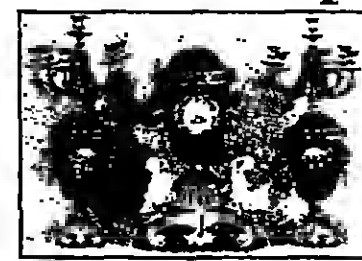
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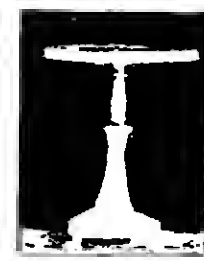
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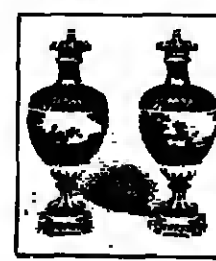
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Olympic officials draw up new plans to avert boycott

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — Olympic leaders meet here Monday to draw up plans for a final attempt to avert the Soviet boycott of the Los Angeles Games.

The president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), Juan Antonio Samaranch, is to fly to Moscow on Wednesday for talks with Soviet government officials aimed at persuading the Soviets to change their minds about withdrawing from the games which begin in July.

Sources close to the Olympic movement said Samaranch learned at a meeting of sports officials from communist countries in Prague on Thursday that his request for high-level talks had been accepted by Moscow.

The sources said Samaranch

was expected to discuss the crisis with foreign minister Andrei Gromyko rather than Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko because it was felt Gromyko had been more instrumental in the boycott decision.

Eleven other countries have joined the Soviet Union in pulling out of the games, citing concern for the safety of their athletes in Los Angeles.

Since announcing its withdrawal on May 8, Moscow has insisted its decision is irrevocable.

The sources, who attended Thursday's Prague meeting, also

said sports officials from 11 countries had criticised the decision to stage the 1988 summer games in South Korea, a country with strong U.S. connections.

There was speculation in Lausanne that Samaranch would use his Moscow visit to discuss the Soviet Union's attitude to the Seoul Games as well as the Los Angeles boycott.

Samaranch will be accompanied to Moscow by Primo Nebiolo, President of the Association of Summer Sports Federations, and Mario Vazquez Rana, President of the Association of National Olympic Committees.

The sources said the three were expected to leave Moscow on Thursday to attend celebrations in Paris marking the 90th anniversary of the founding of the IOC.

Members of the nine-man IOC executive board were arriving Sunday for the three-day meeting. But there was little optimism apparent in Lausanne that Samaranch would be able to persuade Moscow to reverse its decision.

McEnroe demolishes Lendl in World Team Tennis Cup

DUESSELDORF, West Germany (R) — John McEnroe notched his 36th consecutive singles win Sunday, demolishing Ivan Lendl 6-3, 6-2 to give the United States a 1-0 lead over Czechoslovakia in the World Team Tennis Cup final.

McEnroe produced a virtually flawless performance which left the world's number two floundering in the 75-minute match.

The American, who has won their last five matches, showed he has hit peak form on clay, supposedly his weakest surface, in time for this week's French Open, a tournament he has never won.

McEnroe said afterwards: "I felt like I played a pretty good match. I had real good concentration out there. I pretty much controlled the match."

The slippery conditions — rain stopped play for 22 minutes in the second set — posed more problems for Lendl than McEnroe. He fell twice, scraping his left hand and leg and apparently twisting his right ankle.

At the post-match news conference, he said a large bump on his forehead had resulted from a

blow from his racket during one of the falls. But he added none of the injuries was serious.

McEnroe's form on clay — he has dropped just 17 games in four matches this week — is bound to make him favourite to win in Paris.

But he played down the prospect of a Grand Slam this year. "I think the chances are very slim," he said. "I'll be happy if I win one or two Grand Slam tournaments."

McEnroe broke Lendl's service to lead 2-0 in the opening set and then saved five break points to

move to 3-0.

But from then on he was never troubled, dropping just seven more points in his next seven service games, and posing Lendl all kinds of problems.

Tomas Smid squared the match at 1-1 with a 4-6, 7-6, 6-4 victory over Jimmy Arias.

The match and the \$200,000 first prize will now be decided in the concluding doubles.

Smid saved match point at 8-7 down in the tiebreak, going on to take three points in a row to clinch it at 10-8.

Ghanem brothers win bridge contest

By Takako Nakayama

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Third Amman Bridge Tournament, organised by the Jordan Bridge Association (JBA), completed its finals for pairs on Saturday, after a 3-day tournament at the Commodore Hotel. The winners, G. and M. Ghanem are a Jordanian pair which have maintained a partnership for 12 years.

The Ghanem brothers said they were happy to be winners for the first time in a major tournament.

According to JBA Secretary Awwad Haddad, the Amman Bridge Tournament has taken place annually, as part of Independence Day celebrations since 1981.

Mr. Awwad said that the number of participants has increased over the last three years, and a total of 44 pairs from countries such as Egypt, Lebanon, Kuwait, Cyprus, Greece and Jordan have played for the \$1,000 prize.

The tournament will come to an end with a gala on Monday night, after a 2-day session for the teams.

Napoli chases Maradona

NAPLES, Italy (R) — Napoli have reached a provisional agreement with Barcelona for the transfer of Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona. Italian state-owned television reported Saturday night.

The report said Napoli president Corrado Ferlaino and director Antonio Juliano had made a provisional agreement to pay Barcelona 12 billion lire (\$7.1 million) for Maradona, who had agreed to the move although the two clubs had still to work out the final details.

Club sources said it was possible another Argentine, World Cup striker Ramon Diaz, would move to Barcelona in part exchange for Maradona, although spokesman Carlo Juliano, no relation to the director, said negotiations had been postponed until Monday.

To add to the confusion, Diaz is jointly owned by both Napoli and Avellino.

If Napoli complete the signing of Maradona, the chances are they will also want to transfer one of their two other foreigners, Brazilian Dirceu or Dutch defender Ruud Krol.

Napoli fans telephoned newspaper and television offices all day in an effort to keep up with the reported transfer and a banner saying "Maradona, welcome to Naples," was unfurled in a Naples street.

Rumours concerning Maradona have been rife since the news that former English International Terry Venables would be joining Barcelona from Queen's Park Rangers as replacement for outgoing Argentine manager Cesar Luis Menotti.

Maradona, currently in the United States, was last week quoted as saying: "The English style of football doesn't suit me."

In Barcelona, a spokesman for Maradona said the Spanish club had agreed to consider an offer from Napoli but that nothing had been signed.

Finland stuns N. Ireland

PORI, Finland (R) — Finland caused the first upset in the World Soccer Cup qualifying competition when they beat Northern Ireland 1-0 in their European Group Three match here Sunday.

Striker Adi Valvee snatched the decisive goal nine minutes into the second half after a mistake by Irish defender John McClelland to secure only the Finns' second win in 23 matches.

Northern Ireland dominated for long periods but failed to turn their superiority into goals as goalkeeper Orlan Huttunen emerged as Finland's hero.

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I, Mrs. Deniye Kubural Geden Nanda Wathie, Sri Lankan national, announce that I lost my passport, No. 273207, issued at Colombo, along with my work permit issued in Amman.

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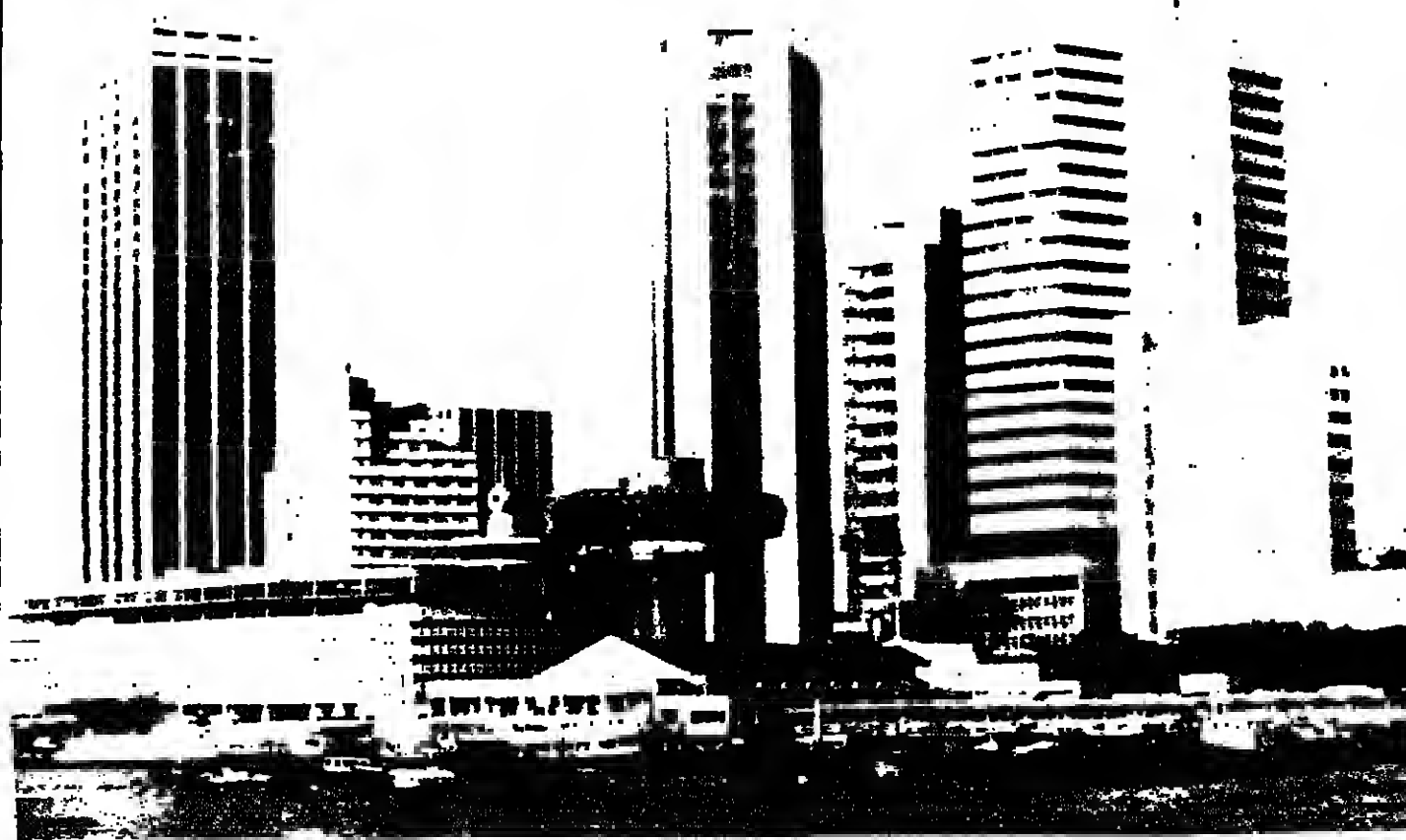
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Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

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PALESTINE

1- THE TWINS
"Indian Film"

2- FIST OF GOLD
"Karate" (Colour)

Performances: 12-3-7

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RAGHADAN

THE ADVENTURERS
(Colour)
"Indian Film"

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Saudi riyal deposit rates remain steady

Reagan, critics disagree on C. America war danger

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan and his critics are locked in increasingly sharp disagreement over whether his policy of military pressure in Central America is heading off war or fuelling the danger of one.

Mr. Reagan's policy has worried opponents in Congress and both the president of Mexico and a group of former top U.S. and Latin American officials have independently said that U.S.-backed military operations were increasing the danger of war.

President Reagan told a press conference this week: "The success of Communism in Central America poses the threat that 100 million people from Panama to the open border on our south could come under the control of pro-Soviet regimes."

U.S. officials say his policy of military pressure is working to end leftist rebellion so that Washington will not have to choose between committing combat troops or accepting Communist takeovers.

They voice optimism that President-elect Jose Napoleon Duarte could neutralise guerrillas in El Salvador next year and that Nicaragua will eventually negotiate an end to its support of leftist insurgency in neighbouring countries.

But the House of Representatives voted soon after Mr. Reagan's Communist threat statement to ban the use of U.S. combat troops unless there was a

clear threat to Americans.

Mr. Reagan won House approval of emergency military aid for El Salvador as a show of support for Mr. Duarte but the House rejected further aid for rebels opposing Nicaragua's leftist government.

House Speaker Thomas O'Neill called the rebels "marauders, murderers, rapists" and said that Americans "want the United States to oppose aggression, not sponsor it."

Mexico's President Miguel de la Madrid said in a recent blunt exchange with Mr. Reagan in Washington: "The risk of generalised war, the scope and duration of which no one can foresee, is growing."

The group of former U.S. and Latin officials known as the inter-American dialogue said in a report: "A grim race is under way in Central America between the escalation of violence and the pursuit of peace."

The group includes several former U.S. secretaries of state and defence and ex-presidents of Latin American countries.

Like De la Madrid, it urged Mr. Reagan to shift from military pressure to genuine support for the peace process pursued by the

"Contadora" group of Mexico, Panama, Venezuela and Colombia.

The Contadora aim is a peaceful settlement of disputes and an end to U.S., Cuban and Soviet military involvement.

Mr. Reagan has repeatedly endorsed the peace process but administration officials say that only U.S. military moves have pushed Nicaragua towards agreeing to the Contadora proposals.

U.S. pressure includes covert operations against Nicaragua such as the mining of Nicaraguan ports and the mining of Nicaraguan ports.

The administration wants an agreement that would restore what it could regard as democratic procedures in Nicaragua as well as halt the Sandinist government's support for leftist guerrillas in El Salvador and other Central American countries.

A senior Nicaraguan official in Managua said that meant Mr. Reagan was trying to destroy the Sandinist revolution and that Nicaragua was bracing for "prolonged war" with America.

A U.S. official dismissed the threat and said the administration had told Nicaragua publicly and privately that it wanted to help work out a political settlement fair to all.

In El Salvador, the official said, the administration was optimistic that Mr. Duarte could effectively neutralise the leftist guerrilla movement as early as next year.

Hong Kong wants to rule itself before China's takeover

HONG KONG (AP) — With Hong Kong's fate decided, some residents want a chance to govern themselves before China takes over in 1997.

This, they say, would prove to China that the people here are capable of running their own affairs. They also hope it would minimise Peking's administrative role and any changes it may plan for Hong Kong's capitalist system.

"If we cannot establish democracy in Hong Kong during this 13-year transitional period (before the Chinese take over), there would be no basis for our future government beyond 1997," Dr. Ding Lik-Kin, chairman of the Christian Industrial Committee, said in an interview. Dr. Ding's committee helps promote workers' welfare here.

China has promised that Hong Kong, under British colonial rule since 1842, will be allowed to retain its existing capitalist life style for at least 50 years beyond 1997.

Also, Peking says, Hong Kong will become an autonomous territory of China and a mini-constitution will be drafted to permit local residents to run the territory.

But many among Hong Kong's 5.5 million residents remain concerned, fearing that Peking may not keep its word should there be another political upheaval there.

For Hong Kong to survive, civic leaders and pressure groups say, it needs a democratic form of government that will preserve the prosperity and stability which has made it the world's third largest financial centre. They also question whether a capitalistic society can function under communist rule.

"The future Hong Kong government must be a democratic and elected government, truly representative of and accountable to the people of Hong Kong," the Hong Kong Observer, a pressure group composed of young intellectuals and professionals, said in a recent statement.

"There will be no place for an appointment system after 1997 because Peking would be the only party who could appoint," the Hong Kong Observer said. Adding to local jitters is the secrecy which Chinese and British negotiators have maintained in talks begun 20 months ago to hammer out an agreement on Hong Kong's future.

Hong Kong is not represented at the talks because China says Peking is responsible for the population, 80 per cent of whom are Chinese.

Britain and China have said Hong Kong residents will have a chance to comment on the agreement before it is formally approved. But many here fear it might be too late then and they should take their own action now.

NATO ministers seek to present united front to Soviet Union

WASHINGTON (R) — Foreign ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) will seek to present a united front to the Soviet Union when they meet in Washington this week amid a deep freeze in East-West relations.

U.S. officials say talks among the 16 ministers are expected to focus on the approach needed in dealing with the Kremlin following recent Soviet moves like the walkout on nuclear arms talks and a Moscow-led boycott of the Los Angeles Olympics.

The talks, starting on Tuesday, will also be shadowed by the continuing Iran-Iraq war which, while it falls outside direct NATO responsibility, could have a dire effect on Western Europe if it halts the flow of oil through the Gulf.

The three-day annual Spring meeting, being held in Washington for the first time since 1969, marks the 35th anniversary of the founding of the military alliance.

The Soviet Union walked out of parallel negotiations on strategic and medium range nuclear weapons late last year in response to deployment of new U.S. missiles in Europe.

Moscow has also rejected new Western proposals on limiting conventional forces in Europe and has scoffed at a U.S. draft treaty

for a global ban on chemical weapons.

U.S. officials do not expect Moscow to return to the nuclear arms talks before the U.S. presidential elections in November.

In their view, hardline Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko is playing an influential role that has led to what an official called a "minimally correct" U.S.-Soviet relationship.

In the face of increasingly harsh Soviet rhetoric, the U.S. position has been to maintain a firm front while making clear it is ready to negotiate on arms and other issues.

The strategy depends on a display of unity by NATO and U.S. officials expressed confidence that the final communiqué after the meeting will demonstrate a high degree of consensus on East-West relations.

"We think transatlantic differences on East-West relations are beginning to narrow," one official said.

He said the alliance had survived a difficult challenge as installation of new U.S. Pershing 2 and cruise missiles, designed to counter Soviet medium range SS-20 rockets, had begun on schedule despite considerable public opposition.

U.S. officials believe the alliance will hold fast against offering

any new concessions to the Soviet Union while it is boycotting the negotiations.

Washington is stressing the need for deployments to continue as scheduled. Missiles are being sited in West Germany, Britain and Italy. Belgium is expected to deploy cruise rockets.

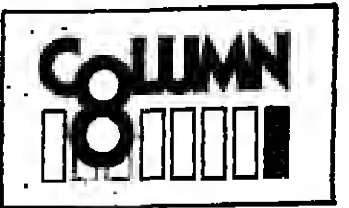
Asked about the Dutch wavering, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said last week that "It is very important that each country live up to the mark."

The meeting will take place after a recent upsurge in attacks on neutral shipping in the Gulf, which the U.S. has pledged to keep open.

Although the Gulf is not a direct NATO responsibility, the United States has for the first time won an alliance commitment to plug the gap in Europe when U.S. forces are engaged in a crisis elsewhere.

But Assistant Secretary of State Tapley Bennett told NATO parliamentarians on Friday that European governments were reluctant to provide even passage and bases for the U.S. which had pledged to carry the main effort in manpower and resources.

The NATO foreign ministers' meeting in idyllic surroundings, leaving Washington shortly after the opening session for historic Wye plantation on the rural eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay.



Heat wave takes 57 lives in India

NEW DELHI (AP) — At least 57 people have died in a record heat wave that has seared much of India over the past two weeks, officials said Saturday. Friday's temperature in New Delhi hit 45.2 degrees Celsius (113.4 Fahrenheit), the hottest day in May in the capital in 40 years. At Palam International Airport just outside the capital, the temperature reached 47.5 Celsius (117.5 F).

Chinese nursery matrons jailed for child abuse

PEKING (AP) — Two Chinese nursery nannies have been sentenced for terrorising and torturing at least four children with a hot stove poker as punishment for crying, the Peking Daily said Sunday. "The Venomous Aunties have been punished," the newspaper said in its account of the incident at the nursery in a Nanjing electric-plating factory. It said matrons Liu Yulan and Yang Xuying received three-year jail terms in late January after an outcry by the parents of the four children, aged between 18 months and 2 years. The newspaper did not explain the delay in reporting the incident or provide other information about the defendants. The children sustained second-degree burns on the buttocks from a stove poker, which the matrons used to threaten the nursery's 89 children when they cried, the paper said. "Whoever cries gets burned," it quoted the matrons as telling the children.

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'Only 2,500 drug addicts in Soviet Union'

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union has just 2,500 people addicted to drugs, out of a population of 274 million, according to a Soviet official. The figure was given by Mr. Eduard Babayan, the Soviet representative to a United Nations Commission on Narcotics, in response to a letter from a Turkish reader to the New Times weekly magazine. The writer, according to the current issue of the magazine, said the Soviet talk much about drug addiction in the West, and asked what the situation was in the Soviet Union. In addition to the figure on addiction, Mr. Babayan said the Soviet Union has not registered a single case of addiction to heroin — banned in the Soviet Union — in the past decade. He also said there are no cocaine, LSD (an hallucinogen) or amphetamine addicts. He did not say what drugs the 2,500 are addicted to.

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84-year-old son sentenced as 104-year-old mother looks on

DENVER (AP) — Despite an impassioned plea for mercy from his 104-year-old mother, an 84-year-old man was sentenced to four years in prison on an assault charge. In imposing the sentence Thursday on Dewey "Pops" Shuey, District Judge Robert P. Fullerton said the defendant had a "propensity" for carrying guns "firing them at people." Within the past two weeks, Shuey has been convicted twice of carrying a concealed weapon and charged with shooting two people, Mr. Fullerton said.

Adolescent suicides feel isolated, psychiatrist says

MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota (AP) — Adolescents who commit suicide often feel they have no one to help them cope with their problems even though many are good students with stable relationships and goals, a University of Minnesota researcher says. In a study of completed and attempted suicides among teen-agers in the Canadian province of Ontario between January 1971 and August 1978, Dr. Barry Garfinkel found that girls tried to kill themselves three times as often as boys. But boys were nearly four times more likely to succeed, because they more often used deadly means, such as guns, he found.

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Mondale, Hart begin final hunt

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Vice President Walter F. Mondale is back on the attack, while Senator Gary Hart is reviving his emphasis on the future as the chief Democratic contender following different roads into the climactic 10 days of their battle for the presidential nomination.

For both Mr. Mondale and Sen. Hart, it represents a return to approaches that proved successful in earlier phases of the campaign.

Standing on California's coastline in Pacific the former vice president charged Saturday that the senator should have led the fight against Senate confirmation of Mr. James Watt as interior secretary. Environmentalists, including those in Sen. Hart's state of Colorado, criticised Mr. Watt's policies as being destructive. Mr. Watt later resigned.

Sen. Hart has made few direct attacks on Mr. Mondale in recent days, offering instead descriptions of his vision of the future, including election law reform, industrial revitalisation and better opportunities for women.

Meanwhile, the Rev. Jesse Jackson planned to fly to Mexico City on Monday to discuss the international debt crisis with Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda. A leader of the four-nation Contadora Group seeking a diplomatic solution to the Central American conflict.

As he prepared for his trip, Rev. Jackson lashed out at the recent election in El Salvador in which Mr. Jose Napoleon Duarte was elected president of the strife-torn country. He called it a "sham."

Rev. Jackson said Mr. Duarte was "elected with Mr. Reagan's help and support, another puppet regime."

Speaking in New Jersey on Saturday, the black civil rights leader called on the administration of President Ronald Reagan to rely more on diplomatic talks with leftist governments in an effort to resolve festering problems in Central America.

"Key to that would be our leadership being aggressive enough to talk to Cuba," he said. "I get the impression our leadership has

such a heavy emotional investment and so much ego invested in Castro's falling... that we have not yet overcome the trauma."

"Our not talking to Cuba is very impractical. They are just 145 kilometres away from Miami. It's not ideology. We do talk to Communists," Rev. Jackson added.

The Democratic race is down to five primaries on June 5 — California, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Dakota and West Virginia — and Mr. Mondale is sitting on a lead of more than 650 delegates over Sen. Hart.

California voters will allocate 306 delegates. New Jersey voters apportion 107.

The former vice president now is within about 300 delegates of the 1,967 that would constitute a convention majority.

Sen. Hart and Mr. Mondale are concentrating on California and New Jersey. A strong victory in either one or narrow winning margins in both probably would make Mr. Mondale unstoppable at the Democratic convention in San Francisco in July.

Nicaragua plans to introduce tough press law

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Nicaragua is expected to enact a tough new press law next week, bringing the news media in this country under total state control and requiring reporters to reveal all their news sources. The law would cover foreign news organisations with permanent operations in Nicaragua.

It was not clear what course, if

any, the government would have in regard to visiting journalists who do not maintain offices or a continued presence here through a local representative.

The tiny opposition minority in the council of state, an appointed body that acts as legislature, denounced the proposal as "highly restrictive" and said it is styled after press laws of communist nations.

The co-publisher of La Prensa, the only opposition newspaper said, "if even 10 per cent of this law is passed, it will be the end of even the last vestiges of press freedom in Nicaragua." "They are tightening the screws on La Prensa," Mr. Pedro Joaquín Chamorro said. "We are the target. If La Prensa did not exist, they would not need this law." He noted that other Nicaraguan media generally supported the government.

The law was proposed by the Popular Front, a three-party leftist coalition that includes the Sandinista National Liberation Front, which controls the government and has an overwhelming majority in the council of state. The council plans to vote on the measure next week.

The new law requires all news organisations and representatives in Nicaragua to register with the government and establishes penalties for violations ranging from fines to imprisonment to closures.

It includes the following: Media must fully identify all sources on which they base their reports, either at the time of publication or at the order of a court. In Nicaragua, as elsewhere, many government officials speak on condition they not be identified.

All television channels are for the exclusive use of the state, which will guarantee access to them to "significant social and political groups."

Publication of news that compromises the economy of the state or its citizens, confidential state information or news of shortages of basic products in the country is prohibited. It requires criticism of public policy to have constructive goals.

The law says the news organisation involved in a possible violation is responsible for all that is published. This would appear to mean, as the law is now drafted, that agencies with full-time offices in Nicaragua could be held liable for dispatches that are judged to

have run afoul of the new regulations.

How the law would be enforced remained a question. The local press is heavily censored, but outgoing foreign dispatches are not. Although foreign news agencies are specifically mentioned as being covered by the law, the law appears directed more at the local press.

While an earlier version of the law proposed administration of the new law through a council of media representatives and government officials, committee revisions earlier this week would give control to the interior ministry.

The ministry is headed by Mr. Tomas Borge, a doctrinaire Marxist and one of nine commanders who run the liberation front. The Press Censorship Bureau, established when the government declared a state of emergency in March 1982, is under Mr. Borge's jurisdiction.

La Prensa is often heavily censored by the bureau, and has been closed for days on several occasions for printing prohibited material. On other occasions, it has opted not to print because censorship delays precluded meeting press deadlines.

The country's other two newspapers, Nuevo Diario and Baricada, strongly support the government and are less frequently censored.

The long-range motives of the new law, according to some opposition figures say, is to give the state complete control of the media before campaigns get under way in August for the Nov. 1 presidential and legislative elections.

Less than a month after a bloody revolution brought the Sandinistas to power in July 1979, the government passed a law requiring news media to defend the interests of the revolution.

Self-censorship and restrictions tied to states of emergency exist in other Central American countries, but Nicaragua is the only nation in the region where formal censorship is applied.

Opposition to fight against Marcos

MANILA (R) — Opposition leader Salvador Laurel said Sunday his party will fight to strip President Ferdinand Marcos of his controversial special powers and may try to have the Philippines constitution rewritten.

Mr. Laurel, whose United Nationalist Democratic Organisation (UNIDO) battled heavy odds to record unexpected gains in parliamentary elections on May 14, said he did not expect Mr. Marcos to relinquish his special powers.

"He is too used to his powers. I don't think he will give them up. We will have to take them away from him and maybe we will move for re-writing the constitution," he told Reuters.

Mr. Marcos told a press conference Saturday that he will resist any attempts to strip him of his law-making powers, which he said were needed to fight a heightened campaign of Communist subversion.

Mr. Laurel, himself an aspirant for the next presidential elections due in 1987 and the son of a former president, said: "He is like the barefoot guy who gets a pair of shoes and does not want to walk barefoot again."

"It will be a long fight," said Mr. Laurel. "He will fight to retain his power and we will fight to divest him. He wants to remain a dictator and we want to dismantle his dictatorship."

Final results of the vote were still not available Sunday.

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'Soviets plan long stay in Afghanistan'

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (R) — A former senior Afghan diplomat who defected to Pakistan recently said Saturday the Soviet Union aimed at a long stay in Afghanistan and its complete Sovietisation.

Mr. Abdul Majid Mangal, who was number two at the Afghan embassy in Moscow for three years, told a news conference the Soviet Union was not interested in a political settlement but wanted to gain time by saying it was.

He said Moscow now entirely ran the internal and external affairs of Afghanistan directly or through advisers and that the Afghan people had totally rejected the Soviet-backed government of President Babrak Karmal.

The Soviet Union says its military intervention in 1979 was prompted by foreign interference in Afghanistan. Soviet officials have said that talk of withdrawal is irrelevant without guarantees against future meddling in Afghan affairs.

Mr. Mangal, whose diplomatic career included eight years with the Afghan mission at the United Nations, crossed into Pakistan with his wife and two sons with the help of Muslim guerrillas.

Allegations Mr. Mangal made included: — That Moscow was expanding the Afghan secret service to control dissidents.

— That hundreds of Afghan children were being indoctrinated in institutions.

— That more than 10,000 Afghans, including military and police officers, were studying in the Soviet Union.

— That Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost received instructions from Moscow

whenever he went to Geneva for indirect talks with Pakistan, sponsored by the United Nations.

— That Moscow always insisted that the Afghan delegation should not accept a Pakistani demand for a timetable for the withdrawal of the estimated 105,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan.

Reconstruction started in Panjsher Valley

Meanwhile Afghanistan's state-run radio has reported that reconstruction has started in the Panjsher Valley, traditional guerrilla stronghold which Kabul says it gained control of last month.

Radio Kabul, monitored here Saturday night, painted a peaceful picture of the valley, one neither Afghan exiles nor Western diplomats in Pakistan could confirm.

The broadcast said a large group of citizens from the capital, many apparently members of the Communist Party's youth group, spent last week in the valley repairing mosques, schools, roads and government buildings.

Soviet forces appear to control the floor of the 115-kilometre valley, the diplomats said, but it was not clear whether fighting was still going on in the many side valleys.

Guerrilla sources in Peshawar in Pakistan report continued clashes in the area, where Soviet forces launched a major offensive on April 1, but say tight Soviet surveillance of their supply routes has blocked most first-hand information on Panjsher from coming out.

While diplomats here said Soviet and Afghan forces were probably consolidating their hold in the lower valley, they cautioned against full acceptance of Radio

Kabul statements that the whole area had been pacified.

According to the radio, the head of Kabul's democratic youth group, Zahor Razmjo, led a large convoy to the valley last week to help clean up.

The group repaired buildings, set up health centres and even resumed emerald production while a special propaganda detachment put up pro-government posters, it said. The group returned to Kabul Saturday.

Razmjo also gave lectures criticising Mr. Ahmad Shah Masood, the rebel commander who has held the Panjsher since the beginning of the five-year war.

The broadcast left vague the question of how many people were actually living in the Panjsher, which Mr. Masood ordered to be evacuated before the start of the Soviet offensive.